

CHAPTER THIRTY-FOUR

Wasatch Women

Women, according to one writer, were made to be loved and not understood. Yet, other writers have produced thousands of books and articles in an attempt to understand them, in trying not to underestimate their power and in some way hoping to explain how the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.

Women of Wasatch County, however, need no lengthy dissertations to explain their motives or actions. Since the earliest days of settlement when they supported their husbands with their hands as well as their hearts, they have toiled to make their homes and communities better places in which to live.

Preceding chapters have told how Wasatch women took an active part in Church affairs, how they improved the social and cultural aspects of their areas and how some pursued successful teaching, business or political careers.

One indication of the respect accorded women in Wasatch County is the selection each year of a county "Mother of the Year."

This tribute on a county basis began in 1954 and has continued yearly since that time. The first woman to be honored was Mrs. Charles N. (Sarah Jane Wood) Broadbent. A daughter of Samuel and Josephine K. Chatterly Wood, Mrs. Broadbent was born in Cedar City on July 3, 1882. She was lovingly known as "Jennie," and was chosen for her cheerfulness, graciousness and sincere friendliness. She has devoted many years of unselfish service to her family, the Church and to Wasatch County. She passed away on March 26, 1959.

Mrs. Henry T. (Emily Springer) Coleman was chosen Mother of the Year in 1955. A gifted and talented person, she shared her graciousness with all whom she knew or met. Her family, her Church and Midway, the place of her birth and her life, were her loves in life. She was born September 6, 1868 in Midway, a daughter of Nathan C. and Matilda Robey Springer, and died 92 years later on March 15, 1961.

Chosen in 1956 was Mrs. Dick (Christina K. Lindsay) Duke, who previously had been a "Grandmother of the Year" in the county during 1948. She was affectionately known as "Aunt Teen," and was honored for endearing herself to family and friends through years of service. She was born in Heber on March 5, 1873, a daughter of James and Agnes Watson Lindsay.

Mrs. J. T. (Marvel M. Lay) Murdock, was crowned as Wasatch "Mother" in 1957. Always interested in the welfare of her fellowmen.

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